



SCHOLARSHIPS FOR MILITARY CHILDREN

Program Description

- Program began in 2001, with 396 recipients receiving \$1,500 each or a total award of \$594,000. After eight years, the total number of applications is more than 45,000, and \$6,406,000 in scholarship grants have been awarded to 4,132 students.
- Program is open to sons and daughters of active duty, reserve/guard, or retired military commissary customers. Recipient must be enrolled or planning to enroll full-time in a four-year undergraduate college or university, accredited in the U. S. They must have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 3.0 on a 4.0 basis.
- Fisher House Foundation, Inc., an IRS recognized 501(c)(3) public charity, administers the program for the Defense Commissary Agency. Commissary business partners donate to Fisher House Foundation, Inc. which treats each contribution as a “restricted donation.” Fisher House Foundation, in turn, contracts with “Scholarship Managers,” a professional scholarship management firm to evaluate the applications and select the best qualified as recipients.
- Every dollar received is given out as a scholarship grant. Fisher House Foundation does not charge for its services, to include the costs of administration and the cost of the scholarship management contract.
- Commissary business partners receive an acknowledgement for their donation from the Fisher House Foundation, with a copy of the acknowledgement sent to the Sales Directorate of the Defense Commissary Agency. Business partners are invited to participate in ceremonies at individual commissaries. The matching of business partners to commissaries is done on a random basis by Fisher House Foundation.
- Accrued interest on donations held in the scholarship escrow account is also included in the scholarship grants.
- Commissary business partners are recognized by the Defense Commissary Agency Director at an annual breakfast or luncheon event. Business partners that donate to the program are encouraged to use the “Proud Supporter” logo, shown above, in any advertising directed to members of the military and their families. (Logo can be downloaded from www.militaryscholar.org.) Every commissary displays a large poster that acknowledges the names of the sponsors to the annual scholarship program, and the names are also listed on the scholarship web site, www.militaryscholar.org.
- Business partner donors are recognized by level, as follows:

Five Star	More than \$200,000
Four Star	\$50,000 - \$199,999
Three Star	\$25,000 - \$49,999
Two Star	\$10,000 - \$24,999
One Star	\$1,500 - \$9,999

- For more information, contact Edna Hoogewind at DeCA (804/734-8410) or Jim Weiskopf at Fisher House Foundation (888/294-8560), or go to www.militaryscholar.org.

Program History

Academic Year	Number of Commissaries	Number of Applicants	Number of Recipients	Total Scholarship Grants Awarded
2001-2002	269	5,076	396	\$594,000
2002-2003	265	5,122	520	\$988,000
2003-2004	265	6,574	550	\$825,000
2004-2005	263	7,041	500	\$750,000
2005-2006	268	6,341	500	\$750,000
2006-2007	259	4,846	500	\$750,000
2007-2008	252	5,002	566	\$849,000
2008-2009	249	5,720	600	\$900,000
Totals		45,722	4,132	\$6,406,000